

**PRESS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release  
September 27, 2005**

**Contact: Joe O'Keefe 617-626 1126  
Jim DiMaio 617-626-1430**

**STATE RECOGNIZES EIGHT (8) MASSACHUSETTS LOGGERS  
FOR ACHIEVING MASTER LOGGER CERTIFICATION**

Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Commissioner Stephen H. Burrington officially recognized the first timber harvesters in Massachusetts to achieve the status of Certified Master Logger:

- John Conkey, Sr. (Belchertown) of John H. Conkey & Sons Logging
- Robert Novick (Belchertown) of White Oak Forest Products
- Christopher Kennick (Florence) of C.C. Kennick Logging
- William Girard (Lanesboro) of Girard Custom Cut Hardwood
- Chris Jones (Ashland) of Jones Logging
- Brian M. Tetreault (Brimfield) Tetreault & Sons Forest Management
- Mike Carlotto (Pittsfield) of Carlotto Lumber
- Charles W. Griffin (Ashby) of Griffin Logging & Landclearing

“The eight Massachusetts residents who achieved Certified Master Logger status are to be commended for their efforts to meet the program standard and their commitment to the highest professional standards for harvesting in a safe, environmentally sound and ethical manner,” Commissioner Burrington said. “Massachusetts should be proud of their achievement as they are setting the standard for the wood processing industry.”

The Certified Master Logger program is administered by Mount Wachusett Community College and Program Director Joseph Smith, and is the highest nationally recognized timber harvester certification. The Master Logger Program is a third-party certification that requires demonstration of a serious commitment to sustainable forestry, workplace safety, and continuous improvement of logging practices.

In obtaining Master Logger status, the nine Massachusetts timber harvesters met over 100 performance standards pertaining to water quality protection, support for forest ecosystems, maintenance of soil productivity, management of visual impacts, and ethical business practices.

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251 Causeway Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02114  
(617) 626-1250  
(617) 626-1351 FAX  
[www.mass.gov/dcr](http://www.mass.gov/dcr)

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